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FRIDAY
JANUARY 15, 1954

Additional bad news from Versailles. The pipes have now broken under the garage where 2,000 bottles of wine are stored and some bottles have frozen in the cellar of the main house.

Mr. Von Kessel came to see me this morning. He is leaving for the United States tomorrow to take up his duties in the German Embassy in Washington. He told me of the recent conversations between François Poncet and the Chancellor of which Tommy had already made me aware. They have now [redacted] terminated and everything is as if they had never occurred. It is still somewhat unclear to me as to why François Poncet took it into his head to suggest to the Chancellor that the French should make certain amendments to the EDC Treaty.

John Hughes came to lunch with me and told me many interesting things about his recent trip to Washington.

Alphand visited me at 3:30. I discussed with him the possibility of the French Government moving ahead to an early attempt at ratification of EDC in the French Parliament. We explored the possibility of the Government making a Saar settlement, the stationing of American troops in Europe, and a Political Community post rather than pre-conditions of ratification. He wants me to talk to Mr. Bidault about this and I told him I would be glad to do it either here or in Berlin, provided Bidault asked me to do so.

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